

Commercial

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ONE of the peculiarities of the Hawaiian Kingdom is its foreign population—composed of natives of almost every country of the Pacific if not of the globe. Especially is it so with the population of Honolulu, where merchants, tradesmen or residents are found who are the representatives of probably twenty-five or thirty different nations. They have been attracted here in the hope of bettering their fortunes, and thus have become identified with the place.

Among the early adventurers to this group, was a young and enterprising Chinaman named Chuwen, who was probably the pioneer of the numerous Chinese merchants, who have long borne an active part as traders at these islands. It was in the year 1823, if we are rightly informed, that he arrived here, bringing with him a stock of Chinese goods, silks, and fancy articles, and we can readily imagine the monopoly he may have enjoyed for a while, till the report of his success brought other adventurers from China. From that date down to the present, the Chinese have formed no insignificant portion of the foreign population of the Islands. Some of them have been large importers, and become wealthy, but generally they are retailers, peddlers, or bakers. So long ago as we can remember, this amusing verse was a favorite announcement of a Chinese firm in Honolulu:

"Good people all, walk in and buy,
Of Sam and Mow, good cake and pie,
Bread hard or soft, for land or sea,
Celestial made, come buy of us."

The number of Chinese now on these islands, including coolies, must be at least 600. The more respectable class, and among the King's subjects he has no more loyal than the Chinese. It may be mentioned in their praise, that for years they have maintained here in Honolulu, at their own expense, a fine fire engine which is promptly manned at every alarm, and has often done great service in checking the spread of fires.

The idea which prompted the Chinese merchants to give some marked testimonial of their loyalty to the Sovereign of their adopted country, was a happy one, and showed that they were ambitious to equal at least their fellow citizens in "honoring the King." The "festival" consisted of a ball which took place on Thursday evening, Nov. 13, at the court house. An unusually large number of invitations had been issued, in conformity with the wishes of the Chinese merchants, that none should be omitted, and it is probable that over one thousand persons visited the hall during the evening. At the outer door, which had been festooned for the occasion, and also at the entrance of the hall, visitors met and greeted the Chinese merchants, all dressed in the different styles of Mandarins. But when their Majesties arrived the long line of Mandarins bowed their heads very low, till they passed, which is the Chinese custom in the royal presence.

On entering the hall, guests accosted the *Mandarins Angles*, Weong Chong Hoffmann, Chong Fong Field, Ming Ching Reimers, and Weong Kong Waterman, dressed in Chinese costume, fans included, who were charged with the duties of Directors general—a ball being practically above the comprehension of a Chinaman.

The decorations of the hall were a decidedly Chinese aspect, and we may say were truly magnificent. What first attracted the eye on entering was a canopy with a lounge for the royal guests, constructed for the occasion, and surrounded with Chinese transparencies, intermingled with Hawaiian and Chinese flags. The latter were an entire novelty here, showing, when spread, a monstrous gilt and red figure, a sort of a dragon with wings. Hanging in each window was a large bouquet of flowers, representing vases, a monstrous spider with legs three feet in length, a dragonfly five feet long, a butterfly of equal dimensions, &c.

Opposite to the seat provided for their Majesties, and shining through a beautiful transparency, which was erected over the main entrance, was the salutation *aloha nui*, and under it the same in Chinese characters. In the hall hung a large octagonal lantern, made for the occasion, bearing on its sides figures of men and animals, all in motion, capering about with life-like precision, the workmanship of which evinced a good deal of skill and ingenuity. Their Majesties arrived about half past nine, soon after which the dancing commenced, but owing to the crowd, gave less satisfaction we suppose, than might otherwise have been derived. We give the original programme of the evening, as it may interest our readers and serve as a precedent:

GEE JIK TUNG SUN KIE YIN

CHONG HONG LOK SUN SET CHONG YIK KUNG

CHONG

WONG KAMEHAMEHA IV

WONG NEUNG EMMA

(TRANSLATION:—"Chinese Festival in honor of their Majesties, King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma.")

1.—Ching Gok Lok—Polonaise.

2.—Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

3.—Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

4.—Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

5.—Chong Gok Lok—Schottische.

6.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

7.—San Ma Jook Tse Gok Lok—Polka.

8.—Yen Chum Sun Gok Lok—Waltz.

9.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

10.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Gallopade.

11.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka Mazurka.

12.—Chong Sun Gok Lok—Waltz.

13.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

14.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

MAN IN—(SUPPER).

15.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Gallopade.

16.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

17.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

18.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Schottische.

19.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

20.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

21.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

22.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

23.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

24.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

25.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

26.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

27.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

28.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

29.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

30.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

31.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

32.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

33.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

34.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

35.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

36.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

37.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

38.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

39.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

40.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

41.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

42.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

43.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

44.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

45.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

46.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

47.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

48.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

49.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

50.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

51.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

52.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

53.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

54.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

55.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

56.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

57.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

58.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

59.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

60.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

61.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

62.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

63.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

64.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

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72.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

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82.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

83.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

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85.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

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97.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

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99.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

100.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

101.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

102.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

103.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

104.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

105.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

106.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

107.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

108.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

109.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

110.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

111.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

112.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

113.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

114.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

115.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

116.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

117.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

118.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

119.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

120.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Polka.

121.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Waltz.

122.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—Quadrille.

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224.—Joy U Chong Gok Lok—